

# Caledonian

No. 9376.

EDINBURGH,

# Mercury.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1781.

## BRESLAW's New Capital PERFORMANCES,

AND

Miss ROSAMOND's LECTURE ON HEADS,  
With several NEW FAVOURITE SONGS.

It being positively the Last Week of their performing in this City,  
At St Mary's Chapel, Niddry's Wynd,

To-Morrow, being TUESDAY the 2d, and on WEDNESDAY next  
the 3d inst. in the Evenings — To begin precisely at Seven o'clock.

I. Mr BRESLAW will exhibit his NEW-INVENTED DECEPTIONS  
on Cards, Letters, Thimbles, Dice, Rings, Metals, Swords, Pocket-  
Pieces, &c. &c. particularly, he will deliver a SEALED LETTER to  
any Lady or Gentleman, which will DISCOVER THE THOUGHTS  
of almost every Person in the Company; after which he will command a  
remarkable Piece of Money to FLY through a Silver Salver into a  
Gold Box on the table, at one yard's distance.

II. The Company will be entertained with several select Pieces of MUSIC,  
two New FAVOURITE SONGS by a YOUNG LADY, and several  
New Deceptions on Cards, by a PUPIL of Mr BRESLAW's.

III. A SATIRICAL LECTURE ON HEADS will be delivered by the  
celebrated Miss ROSAMOND.

IV. Mr BRESLAW will exhibit, in a manner entirely new, with Five  
or Six MECHANICAL WATCHES, Gold and Silver Medals, ja-  
panned Caskets, Lemons, Gold Boxes, Glasses and Silver Machines,  
&c. &c. particularly with a New-invented small MAHOGANY  
CHEST, the particulars of which are inexplicable, and not to be  
equalled in Europe.

Tickets or Places to be taken at Mr INNES's Confectioner (late Mrs  
STEEL's) opposite Bridge-street; or any person inclined to learn  
some Deceptions, may apply to Mr BRESLAW, at Miss Lindsay's, below  
the Tron-church.

— O — O — —  
To THE PRINTER.

S I R,

THE capitulation of Tobago having been published in the London Gazette, without any part of my dispatch to the Secretary of State, which accompanied it, it may be expected that I should give the Public some account of the siege and capture of that island; and it may perhaps be thought the more incumbent upon me to do so, as Sir George Rodney, in his letter of the 29th of June to the Admiralty, has misstated several facts respecting that event, and insinuated that it had surrendered without making any defence.

Early in the morning of the 23d of May, I received information that the enemy's squadron had been seen to windward the evening before, and that it was then approaching the island. I instantly dispatched Captain Barnes, of the Rattlerake, with the intelligence to Sir George Rodney. Captain Barnes was fortunate enough to find the fleet at Barbadoes, and he delivered my dispatch on board the Sandwich at twelve o'clock on the night of the 26th of May.

About ten o'clock in the morning of the 23d, the squadron brought to off Minister Point, hoisted French colours, and immediately got their troops into boats, with an intention to land at Minister Bay; but, finding the sea very high, and receiving some shot from a gun at Minister Point, which would have annoyed them in landing, they returned on board. They then endeavoured to get into Rockley Bay; but the current carrying them to leeward, they went round the west end of the island. This squadron consisted of the Pluton, of 74 guns; the Experiment, of 50; the Railleur, of 32; the Sensible, a flute, of 32; the Eagle, of 14; and four sloops, under the command of the Chevalier d'Albert de Rious.

Next morning, the 24th, the enemy effected a landing at Great Courland Bay with very little loss; the temporary battery there, of three 18 pounders, was almost entirely without cover, and so injudiciously situated, that ships could fire upon the back part of it, before a gun from it could bear upon them. The Pluton brought to within four hundred yards of this battery, and kept up a constant fire, that, in a very short time, the party was driven from it, having been scarcely able to bring a gun to bear upon her. But a gun at Blackrock, under the direction of Major Hamilton of the militia, though at a greater distance, continued to fire upon the Pluton for a considerable time, and killed several of her men.

Upon quitting the battery, our troops were posted upon the heights, upon each side of the road leading from Courland to Scarborough, to harass the enemy upon their march; but the French General, with great judgment, avoided the defile, and leaving the road, ascended the height upon his right. He there kept his men partly concealed behind a wood, and sent a party to gain some heights which were still above him. This advanced party exchanged a few shot with some of our regulars; but as they were at a considerable distance from each other, there were only two of our people killed. Upon this occasion Mr Collow offered to set fire to his canes to distress the enemy; but some rain which had fallen in the night unfortunately prevented their burning so rapidly as to have that effect. Mr Collow's magnanimity, however, is not the less deserving of praise. As the troops were much fatigued with the hard duty they had undergone that and the preceding day, and as there was likewise reason to believe, that the enemy would attempt to cut off our retreat to Concordia, the place of our rendezvous, by detaching part of their army round by another road, it was judged proper to carry the troops thither in the evening.

General Blanchelande, Governor of St Vincent's, who commanded the French troops, in the mean time dispersed papers amongst the planters, expressing surprise at their deserting their houses, and informing them, that their plantations would be plundered and confiscated, if they did not return to them in 24 hours. These, however, had no effect on the inhabitants, who were determined to retire with me to Concordia. The General, at the same time, sent a flag of truce to acquaint me, that he had landed with 3000 men to conquer the island, and he offered to give any terms if I would capitulate; but his offer was rejected, and his Excellency was requested not to trouble me again upon that subject. In consequence of which he dispatched a letter that night (*the twenty-fourth*) to Martinique for a reinforcement.

Upon the 25th the enemy took post upon the different heights

in the neighbourhood of Concordia, and on the 26th they took possession of the town of Scarborough, and the hill.

On the 27th the enemy prepared to attack us. Mr Charles Low, understanding that I was unwilling to destroy his dwelling-house, and other buildings, although they afforded some shelter to the enemy, came himself, and proposed to burn them, which he instantly put in execution.

The 28th the French fleet came into Rockley bay, having left Courland the day before. A party of 20 negroes, who were sent this day under the command of Messrs. Hamilton, Mackellar, and Irvine, to burn the remainder of Mr Low's houses, very bravely effected that business, notwithstanding the opposition made by a large body of the enemy. Messrs. Mackellar and Irvine, and nine of the negroes, were unfortunately wounded.

The 29th, as well as the two preceding days, the enemy endeavoured, without effect, to draw us from our post, by exposing small parties, in marching them from one place to another.

Early on the morning of the 30th, I received a letter from Rear Admiral Drake, acquainting me that he was coming with six sail of the line, and three frigates, to relieve the island, and that General St. Georges was on board with 128 men. The joy occasioned by the expected arrival of this long looked for succour did not last, as we were soon after informed that the whole French fleet had arrived from Martinique, in consequence of General Blanchelande's letter dispatched the 24th at night, and had fallen in with Mr Drake, who was thereby prevented from landing the troops, and it was supposed his squadron was taken.

This day the enemy took possession of Mr Cotton's house, from whence they could see every thing that passed at Concordia; they proposed that night to make a vigorous attack, and the garrison as usual was ready to receive them; but their guides having mistaken the path in the dark, they returned to their quarters next morning much fatigued, and resolved not to make another attempt, until their reinforcement from Martinique should arrive.

On the morning of the 31st, we received intelligence, that the enemy's fleet was again seen to windward, having returned from chasing Admiral Drake; and at sun-set that evening, we saw two French frigates and three cutters full of troops go into Courland bay.

The ground at Concordia is strong, and there is a view from it of both sides of the island, which made it a desirable part for us to possess; but the trench, which had been dug there some years, was almost entirely filled up, and, if it had been cleared out, would have acquired above 2000 men to defend it. The engineers being, for these and other reasons, of opinion, that it was no longer tenable against so superior a force, it was unanimously resolved in a council of war to retreat directly to the Main Ridge, where a few huts had been built, and some provisions and ammunition previously lodged. In consequence of this resolution, the garrison began to march at one in the morning of the first of June, and before eight they effected their retreat to Caledonia, without the loss of a man.

Caledonia is near the centre of the island, and from thence to the north side across the Main Ridge, there is a road six miles in length, and so narrow that two men cannot walk abreast. Upon each side there is an impenetrable forest, which extends some miles — a handful of men could undoubtedly defend this road against a powerful army. Rejoiced that the troops had got to this place, and believing they could hold out whilst the provisions lasted (of which there were only a few days), I went on with the engineer, to get every thing ready for their reception at the bays.

The Marquis de Bouille, who had arrived at Courland the evening before with the reinforcement, having been deceived by the silence of our march, and by centries being left after the garrison went away, sent a flag at day-break to Concordia, believing the troops were still there; but, being disappointed, he immediately sent orders to the Marquis du Chilieu, Governor of Dominique, to land at Man of War Bay with three or four hundred men, and he followed us directly himself as far as Brotherfield. Being still more disappointed when he got there to learn that we were four miles before him, in a strong country, he instantly ordered the adjoining plantations of Nutmeg Grove and Belmout to be reduced to ashes, which was done accordingly, in hopes of making the inhabitants surrender. An order was then issued to burn four plantations more in four hours, which was to be repeated at the like interval, till the island should either surrender or be laid waste.

At this time, the enemy required Mr Orr to shew them the road to our camp, which he positively refused. He offered to go with an officer and a flag, but he would not conduct their army. Threats of burning his house, and of putting him to death, had no effect upon Mr Orr, although at that very instant the plantations of his neighbours were in flames. Mr Turner, a capitulant of St Vincents, was then applied to; but although that gentleman's whole property was under the French government, he peremptorily refused to shew them the road, upon their attempting to push on a body of men under the protection of a flag of truce. The Marquis de Bouille was therefore obliged to send the flag without the troops.

Upon being informed of some of those circumstances, I hastened back to Caledonia, when, to my very great mortification, the militia refused to hold out any longer. My duty to his Majesty, and my regard for the inhabitants, concurred in making me urge them earnestly to defend the island to the last extremity, but in vain; for, exhausted with fatigue, in despair at not having been relieved in the course of ten days, and seeing at the same instant their estates in flames, they no longer paid attention to my remonstrances. Thus circumstanced, I delivered the commanding officer of the regulars to take possession of the road before-mentioned, with his troops, whilst I should renew my endeavours to prevail upon the militia to alter their sentiments; but that gentleman refused to obey my orders, and, consulting his officers, he determined to capitulate.

Being unable to prevent it, I left the regulars and militia to

make terms for themselves, as capitulating, at that time, was perfectly against my opinion; but afterwards, seeing it was impossible to get them to hold out longer, and the inhabitants having already agreed to some articles, which I disapproved of, I interposed, and protested against any capitulation but upon the terms of Dominique. Count Dillon, who was empowered by the Marquis de Bouille to treat, for some time insisted that their deserters, and the negroes we had armed, should be delivered up to be punished; but finding these articles would never be complied with, he gave them up, and on the evening of the 1st of June I consented to surrender the island upon the terms given to Dominique. The officer commanding the troops made terms for the regulars without consulting me, and he sent the officer next in command, that evening, as a hostage for his performance of them.

The Marquis de Bouille afterwards drew out articles very different from those of Dominique, which I refused to sign; but upon some of them being altered, and the inhabitants representing to me that they were, upon the whole, better than those of Dominique, I appointed three gentlemen to examine and compare them; and as they unanimously recommended me to sign them, as being more favourable than those alluded to, I complied with their request. The 1200 half Joannes, and the furnishing of 400 negroes to the French King's works (which are not in the Dominique capitulation), were agreed to by some of the inhabitants before I had consented to capitulate; but as the planters at large were resolved to pay their quota of those articles, and not to allow the few individuals who had subscribed to bear the whole load, and as the Marquis de Bouille had agreed to allow the 1200 half Joannes to be expended in reconstructing the houses which had been burnt, I admitted them into the capitulation.

It is perhaps impossible to ascertain the number of the enemy's army, as they generally exaggerate their force before a siege, and diminish it after. The French, however, upon this occasion, varied less than is usual; for General Blanchelande, upon his landing, said he had 3000 men, and I have been informed since the capitulation by Mr Fitzmaurice, the second in command, and Mr Walsh, the Major General, (Adjutant General) of his army, that General Blanchelande brought with him between two and three thousand men. The reinforcement landed by the Marquis de Bouille was supposed to be about half that number.

Our number under arms never exceeded four hundred and twenty-seven men, exclusive of forty armed negroes, viz. Four gunners of the royal artillery, 207 rank and file of the 86th regiment, fifteen matroffes of the island artillery, 181 rank and file of the militia, and 20 seamen.

Sir George Rodney, in his account, generously gives us forty of the train, 300 regulars capable of doing duty, and 500 militia; and, to 1200 the contest near equal, he sunk, in the same account, all our enemies except 900.

Sir George observes, "that something extraordinary must have happened to have induced Governor Ferguson to capitulate." But I apprehend the world will think it more extraordinary, that a British Admiral, with 21 ships of the line under his command, should allow an enemy's squadron of four ships and frigates, and a few sloops, to besiege, for ten days together, a British colony, within twenty-four hours fail of him, without either relieving the island, or endeavouring to destroy the squadron than that an island, without any fortification whatever, defended by only 427 men, without even covering sufficient to shelter them from the inclemency of the weather, should be unable to hold out longer than ten days, against an army of veteran troops above five times their number.

And it will perhaps appear equally extraordinary, that the whole French fleet and army should arrive at Tobago from Martinique before the squadron from Barbadoes, although my express to Sir George Rodney sailed thirty-six hours before General Blanchelande dispatched the cutter for his reinforcement, when it is well known that the voyage from Tobago to Martinique, going and returning, is more than double the voyage from Tobago to Barbadoes and back.

Jermyn-street, No. 33.

Sept. 24, 1781.

GEO. FERGUSON.

To the Printer of the Caledonian Mercury.

S I R,

I beg you will insert the following, as I wish to find a man agreeable to me. If any of your readers should think himself so, I beg to be publicly informed of it, as no woman longs more after matrimony.

I DO not love a man that's tall;  
A man that's little, worse than all;  
I, too, abhor a man that's fat;  
A man that's poor is worse than that;  
A young mah is a constant peft;  
An old one would my room infest.  
Nor do I like a man's that fair;  
A man that's black I cannot bear.  
A man of sense is always proud;  
A senfelefs one is always loud.  
For a red coat I've no tendre;  
For a black one I'm less fonder.  
A sailor always stinks of tar;  
A rogue is always at the bar.  
A sober man I will not take;  
A gambler soon my heart would break.  
A drunken man I fear would scourge me;  
A doctor, too, I'm sure would purge me.  
A man that's rich I'm sile won't have me;  
And one that's poor I fear would starve me;  
I'm from my cradle a despiser  
Of ill-humour and a miser.  
Then hard I b'lieve will be my fate;  
Extremely all above I hate;  
And yet I sigh for marriage state.

Edin. Sept. 26.

A M E R I C A.

New York, Aug. 1. Yesterday morning the Schooner Dol-, Capt. Newbold, arrived here from Charlestown, after a passage of eight days. By her we are informed, that Lord Rawdon, after Mr Green got his drubbing from Col. Crozier, on the 13th of Jane, ordered the port of Niggy-Six to be demolished and relinquished, having, for the better accommodation of the army, removed to Orangeburgh, 80 miles distant from Charlestown.

General Green has quitted his late position on Saluda, and retreated over the Ennoree; which last river he passed at Hendrick's ford with uncommon precipitation, being closely pursued by Lord Rawdon, who was within two hours march of him at that place.

Charlestown, July 11. On Thursday evening, a small party of mounted rebel militia surrounded the house of Andrew Williamson, Esq; formerly Brigadier-General of the South Carolina militia, about seven miles from town, and without allowing him time to put on his clothes, carried him off prisoner. On intelligence being received of this, Major Fraser, with 90 of his dragoons, was detached next day in quest of them. After having effected a circuitous march of more than 70 miles through the woods, with the most profound secrecy, on Saturday morning the Major surprised their main body in their camp at the Horseshoe, killed 14 on the spot, wounded several, took Colonel Isaac Hayne, their Commander, prisoner, and released Gen. Williamson from his confinement at a house in the next hour.

Among the killed was the second in command, Lieutenant-Colonel M'Laughlan; his brother Captain M'Laughlan was dangerously wounded. Col. Hayne was brought to town on Sunday, and is now lodged in the Provost.

Extradit of a letter from Charlestown, dated the 21st of July.

Colonel Coates, who commanded the 19th regiment stationed at Monk's Corner, upon the appearance lately of a large body of rebels, chiefly horse, under the command of Lee, Washington, &c, relinquished his situation, and moved to a more advantageous ground nearer to this town. Intelligence of this being arrived, a large part of the troops in garrison were ordered out to reinforce him. Previous, however, to their junction with the 19th regiment, Colonel Coates was several times attacked by, and as often beat back, the rebels. He at last disposed of his men in such a manner as induced them to make another attempt, in which they were repulsed with the loss of about 70 killed, mostly Lee's dragoons. We had only 17 killed and wounded in the different skirmishes. General Greene is still on the other side of Santee, and the greatest part of our army about Orangeburgh. We daily expect to have further advices, as our troops are still in motion.

New York, Aug. 8. Since our last we have learned, that General Washington has moved the army under his command about six miles more to the northward, in the vicinity of the White Plains.

New York, Aug. 11. By the late accounts from Philadelphia, we are informed the rebels are in great consternation, occasioned by blocking up the river Delaware, a fleet of 12 sail bound for the Havannah (the favourite object of their trade, and source of all their revenues) on their voyage down, proceeding to sea, perceived the British fleet, and suddenly pushed back to their former moorings.

We have also the pleasure to announce, that their last effort to restore public credit has miscarried, as the Loan or Bank (from an establishment of which, much was expected by the weaker brethren of this new-fangled Republic) has fallen through, and is now found to be impracticable.

New-York, August 15. We have the pleasure to acquaint the public with the arrival of his Majesty's ship Amphion, of 32 guns, John Bazely, Esq; commander, from Bremer Lee, in Germany, after a passage of 93 days, with the Ostrich sloop of war, commanded by Sir Jacob Wheate, Bart. and Britannia armed ship, and 23 sail of transports, having on board 2988 German officers and privates, &c. They took on the passage a ship belonging to Salem, in New-England, and a brigantine.

The General Monk, Captain Rogers, has taken the schooner Liberty, and the privateer Mercury, of 10 guns, from New-London, which, after being manned out of the Monk, brought in a brigantine laden with flour.

On Sunday was sent into our harbour, the rebel letter of marque Revolution, Captain McNaughton, of 20 guns, with 1200 barrels of flour, bound from Philadelphia for the Havannah; she was taken by the Triumph, of 16 guns, belonging to this port.

New York, Aug. 18. Thursday was brought in here by some of his Majesty's ships, the rebel privateer brig Mariamne, — Whipple, master, of 16 six-pouders, and 47 men; four days out on a cruise, but had taken nothing.

Last night, arrived a French lugger vessel, prize to his Majesty's ship Solebay, bound for Rhode Island from L'Orient, laden, it is said, with dry goods to the amount of fifteen thousand pounds.

Last Saturday, the gallant Major Ward (who, last July, so eminently defended the block-house on Hudson's River against Wayne and an immense host of rebels) with a party of refugees, took and brought in a rebel guard of 15 men, from the neighbourhood of Hackinsack.

## L O N D O N.

This morning, an express arrived at the Admiralty, and another at the American department, with dispatches from his Excellency Major-General Vaughan. They contain nothing new of any material consequence, being little more than duplicates of his former dispatches. Information was brought by the same express of the safe arrival of the Leeward Island fleet off the Cove of Cork. General Vaughan came passenger in the Cerberus frigate, and landed at Cork with a view to avail himself of the first conveyance to England. *English Chron.*

Government have received information, that Mons. de Graffe is recalled from the chief command of the French fleet on the American station, and that Mons. Bougainville, the celebrated navigator, is appointed to succeed him. The succeeding Mons. de Graffe is supposed to have originated from the representation of his Captains, relative to the engagement that happened between him and Sir Samuel Hood in the West Indies. *Ibid.*

Governor Ferguson has written to the Commander in Chief, insuring, upon it, as a right due to his honour and character, that a Board of General Officers be called, as a Court of Inquiry, to sit and hear evidence respecting his conduct as Lieut. Governor of Tobago, which he considers as attacked in an article in Sir George Rodney's letter published in the Gazette, concerning the loss of that island. It is not certain, however,

that this request will be concurred with, the paragraph alluded to not amounting, in the judgment of the majority of his Majesty's Ministers, to a direct imputation upon Governor Ferguson's conduct, and the gallant Admiral being himself thought to have done every thing upon the occasion, which it was possible for him to effect under the circumstances. *Ibid.*

Several representations, of them erroneous, having been circulated as to the visit made by Sir George Rodney to the King at Windsor, we have selected the following brief account of the particulars, which may be depended upon as the real state of the case. When Sir George called at the Queen's house, the King was not returned from hunting. The Admiral waited his Majesty's coming, and then, sending in his name, was immediately introduced, in the usual form, to the royal presence; but after the compliments had passed, and Sir George was proceeding to enter into a conversation of business, his Majesty politely interrupted him with this intimation, " that he saw he was fatigued with his journey; he would not therefore detain him then, but would be glad to see him at the levee." This remark of course put an end to the interview, and the Admiral instantly retired. The reason of his Majesty's putting so speedy a termination to the conference, undoubtedly arose from this cause, that he might have an opportunity of consulting with his Ministers, which is usual on similar occasions, as to the nature of the reception most proper to be given. We can assure our readers, that the Admiral did not ascribe it to any personal disfavour on the part of the King himself. *Ibid.*

The brave Sir George Rodney's conduct is disapproved by the Ministry, and the Admiral, when at the levee yesterday, met a very unfavourable reception from his Majesty. No less than eighty actions have been commenced against him on the St Eustatia business. *Ibid.*

This morning, an express arrived at the Admiralty Office from Admiral Darby, who was clear of Scilly the 23d in the morning, with 26 sail of the line. The express was brought by a cutter to Portsmouth.

The Quebec fleet were spoke with, all well, the 16th of August, off Cape Rosier, under convoy of his Majesty's ships Dedalus, Brune, and Pandora: The Cork fleet were with the above, likewise all well, consisting of 33 sail.

The cartel vessels for the exchange of prisoners between England and Holland are to sail to and from Leith and the Texel; the first exchange will be early in the next month.

Ministry are said to have fresh information from New-York, that the French fleet were arrived in America, and had landed a large body of troops, which had joined Washington's army immediately. Soon after the junction they had raised their tents, and again marched towards New-York, and, at the time the letters were written, had approached to within twenty miles of that place. The English were in high spirits, and fully determined to give them a warm reception.

Ministry are extremely anxious to hear from Minorca, every succour having been sent General Murray, previous to the Spaniards having mediated their attack, that was necessary, and could be spared for the defence of the place.

The French and Spanish fleets are certainly between us and the Jamaica homeward-bound fleet, but are not so powerful as has been reported. We are informed by a correspondent, that they have never exceeded 36 or 37 ships of the line, and have been much distressed by sickness.

Every necessary preparation is making in town for the reception of Lord Rawdon, who is hourly expected home from Carolina.

Yesterday Lord Mountstuart took leave of his Majesty, previous to his Lordship's setting out on Sunday next on his return to Turin.

Prince Alfred, the youngest Prince, lying dangerously ill, her Majesty did not come from Windsor yesterday; she constantly attending her royal offspring in the Nursery.

Yesterday the mail from New-York was brought express to the General Post Office, and the letters delivered out.

Yesterday there was a Quarterly General Court of Proprietors of East-India Stock at their House in Leadenhall-street, pursuant to their Charter for calling Quarterly Courts.

As soon as the Clerk had read over the Minutes of the last Meeting, the Chairman acquainted the Court, that the Quarterly Accounts were prepared to be read to them, which the Clerk accordingly read, and which stated all the several Items of Debtor and Creditor of the Company from the 1st of March to the 1st of September, 1781, when there appeared a balance in favour of the Company of above 700,000 l. besides nearly as much more in cash, which, by their agreement with Government, was to be referred to the Company for extraordinary exigencies.

A conversation then took place relative to appointing a day for restoring Mr Robertson, late third mate of the Valentine East-Indian, to his former place, which being fixed for Tuesday next, the Court adjourned.

At the close of the poll this day at Guildhall, the numbers were:

For Sir Watkin Lewes, 2190  
Alderman Clark, 2017

The poll for the city of London will be adjourned on Saturday from twelve o'clock till one, for the choice of Lord Mayor, when it will commence again, and finally close at three.

Yesterday Mr Ewer, the Governor of the Bank, gave his vote for Mr Alderman Clark, with most of the gentlemen who are Liverymen and clerks of the Bank of England.

Mr Sheriff Crichton is perfectly recovered from the accident he met with at Guildhall on Monday last, having happily neither fractured nor dislocated his leg, which was very extraordinary, considering the elevation of the Hastings is about three feet, from which he made a false step into the hall, with the whole pressure of his body on the one leg from which he stepped off.

Yesterday several of the nobility waited on Admiral Rodney, at his house in Albemarle-street, to compliment him on his safe arrival in England.

Yesterday Admiral Rodney kissed the King's hand at St James's, on his appointment to the dignity of Knight of the Bath, during his absence in the West-Indies.

A correspondent says, "It is with confidence he can assure the public, that Sir Henry Clinton's return from America will take place as soon as the threatened attack of New-York is blown over; but he will not presume to assign the reasons, or repeat the reasons assigned by that General."

Advice is received from Gibraltar, that some Algerine corsairs have taken a Dutch man of war of 64 guns, after an engagement of two hours, and carried her into Algiers; the Dutch Captain, his first Lieutenant, and 20 of his men were

killed and many wounded; the Algerines carried each thirty 12 and 18 pounders, and were full of men. Some of the Dutch crew got into a boat undiscovered by the barbarians, and got safe to Gibraltar, where the Governor ordered great care to be taken of them, and that they should be supplied with every thing necessary.

Advice is received from Ostend, that a large Spanish ship, bound from St. Sebastian's to Bourdeaux, laden with divers sorts of goods, is taken by the Dolphin privateer, and both were put in there, having just escaped being taken by a Dutch frigate, which had chased them three hours; the Spanish ship had on board a French family and their effects, who were on their return home to reside in their own country.

The last letters from Jamaica mention, that advice had been received there from Hispaniola of a violent earthquake which had damaged several of the fortifications, and done other considerable damage.

Sir George Rodney made his appearance yesterday at St James's in a new elegant carriage; a great concourse waited his coming from the Court, and testified their approbation of seeing their favourite commander on British ground.

It is somewhat remarkable, that though Lord Sandwich was yesterday at St James's, he did not introduce Sir George Rodney at the levee; the cause of this accustomary etiquette not taking place, is supposed to originate from a dispute which has happened between this veteran commander, and his Lordship, on the information that was transmitted to him of the force of M. de Graffe's squadron when it sailed from Brest for the West Indies.

Before Admiral Rodney left the islands, he dispatched the Torbay of 74 guns, the Sandwich of 98 guns, and the Prince William of 64, to Jamaica. The Triumph of 74 guns, and the Panther of 60, are convoy to the homeward-bound fleet; therefore Admiral Hood's squadron, which is supposed to be gone to America, consists of the following ships, viz.

Ships.	Guns.	Ships.	Guns.
Barfleur,	90	Ajax,	74
Alfred,	74	Rufus,	74
Shrewsbury,	74	Princess,	70
Centaur,	74	Resolution,	74
Montague,	74	Invincible,	74
Monarch,	74	Belliqueux,	64
Terrible,	74	Intrepid,	64
Alcide,	74		

It appears somewhat odd, that Rodney should have been in so vast a hurry to make his way to England, that he could not suffer the least delay in lying by for the Leeward Island fleet, even for a day. An 80 gun ship would have been no small addition to their slender convoy.—'Tis time, however, for the old, gallant, weather-beaten tar, to enjoy a little of the *alium cum dignitate*.

Sir Laurence Dundas, who died a few days since at his seat in Yorkshire, is said to have left behind him, in various legacies to his Nephews and other relations, the immense fortune of 900,000l. in personalities and landed property.

By the death of Sir Laurence Dundas, an estate of near sixteen thousand pounds per annum devolves to his son, now Sir Thos. Dundas.

A letter from Bude in Hungary, dated Sept. 1st, says, "The grapes are already ripe in all our vineyards, and the vintage will be so abundant, that a tun full of wine is offered for two empty tons; and as they have not a sufficient number of casks, a great quantity of grapes have been put under ground-till vessels can be procured."

Letters from Prague mention, that one of the most learned Jews in that city had abjured Judaism, and was baptised with his wife and nine children.

The following anecdote of the conduct of the Prince of Asturias shews clearly how much he disapproves of the present measures of the Spanish cabinet: A Spanish nobleman, when he took leave of the Prince, to come with the King's leave to England, sent thither by his Physicians to drink the Bath waters, had this speech made to him—" You are going to a country with whom I wish we were at peace, and as the true interests of Spain demand. Let them know in England, that those Spaniards who wish well to their country, know that our interests are the same, and that we ought not to be at war!"

The following is the present state of the Army in the service of the American Congress:

Four regiments of cavalry, 6 troops each, of 64 men,	1556
Four regiments of artillery, 9 companies each, of 65 men,	2340
Forty-nine regiments of infantry, 9 companies, each 46 men,	2824
One regiment of artificers, 8 companies each, 60 men,	480

32580.

The following are the present rentals of the principal estates in England, viz.

Duke of Bedford's,	L. 66,000
Duke of Northumberland's,	57,000
Duke of Devonshire's,	52,500
Duke of Marlborough's,	51,800
Lord Shelburne's,	31,000
Lord Spencer's,	30,000
Sir James Lowther's,	29,000
Duke of Norfolk's,	28,000
Lord Milton's,	27,000
Marquis of Rockingham's,	27,000
Duke of Montague's,	27,000
Duke of Rutland's,	28,700
Lord Grosvenor's,	27,000
Duke of Beaufort's,	26,000
Mr Coke's,	24,000

The Bedford, Devonshire, Beaufort, Norfolk, and Rutland estates are further improvable; the rest are already at rack-rents.

The very spirited manner (says a correspondent) in which General Murray writes to our Ambassador, must give great hopes that Minorca will not fall into the hands of the common enemy. The behaviour of that brave officer, when the French besieged Quebec, is well known. It is amazing what difficulties he had to encounter, and still he repelled the invaders. This is much to be desired, that should they possess themselves of the island of Minorca, they will obtain it by a dear purchase; for it is not as in 1756, when the brave old General Blakeney had neither force sufficient to defend it, nor was it in proper time apprized of the approach of the enemy. General Murray had

had long notice of their intentions, has been preparing for them by every practicable means, and the inhabitants are most of them instructed in military discipline.

*Extract of a letter from Kingston (Jamaica) July 28.*

"The Hero letter of marque, Capt. Beaver, returned from a cruise on Wednesday; in the night of Friday the 6th inst. she fell in with the Licorne frigate, and unfortunately mistaking each other for an enemy, an engagement ensued within pistol shot, which continued an hour and a quarter before the fatal error was discovered; 18 men are said to be killed and wounded on board the Licorne, and 14 on board the Hero, whose hull, masts, and rigging received considerable damage. It is much to be regretted that some measure could not be adopted to prevent such unhappy mistakes in future. Capt. Beaver in his cruise fell in with a fleet of nine sail of Dutchmen from Curacao, bound to Cape Francois, three of which he took—he also ran a zebec of 28 guns ashore at Monti Christi."

*Extract of a letter from Falmouth, Sept. 23.*

"Arrived the Parnassus privateer, Capt. Sheene, from a cruise, and has brought in with her the Maria Juifa Catharina, Duff, from Amsterdam for France, with stores; she sailed a single ship from the Texel, and by her we are informed that 30 sail lay ready laden there when she came away.

"Sailed the Prudente and Emerald frigates on a cruise; also the Flying Fish and Resolution cutters, with dispatches for Gibraltar; and the trade for Plymouth."

**E D I N B U R G H.**

*Extract of a letter from London, September 27.*

"You may assure the Public, from the first authority, that Sir Henry Clinton has written home to Ministry, requesting leave to return to England, under the most positive assurances, that his continuance at New York can neither be honourable to himself, nor serviceable to his country.

"Sir Henry Clinton is said to be particularly disgusted at the conduct of Lord G. Germain, who has done nothing but amuse the Commander in Chief for a long time past, in the promises of such reinforcements which would have enabled him to have done something effectual, and in the expectation of which Sir Henry Clinton had drafted off the flower of his army, to assist Lord Cornwallis in his operations in the Carolinas.

"The late advices from New York represent the state of the British troops there to be much too weak to stand against the united army of General Washington and the Count de Rochambeau; should they make an attack against that city, owing to the repeated reinforcements which the Commander in Chief had detached to the assistance of Lord Cornwallis, between whom an unhappy misunderstanding had taken place.

"It is generally understood, that Sir Henry Clinton is to take passage home, as soon as the intentions of Mons. de Grasse shall be known, respecting the attack expected from that commander, in conjunction with the French and American forces.

"Authentic letters from Paris advise, that the French Ministry have taken great umbrage at the conduct of their commanders in the West Indies, and talk very seriously of bringing them to an account, for not having put themselves in possession of the island of Tobago many months sooner than they did, as they are said to have had it in their power, from the inactive state of the English fleet under Sir George Rodney, to have done it with great ease.

"The very liberal and humane behaviour of the French, upon making themselves masters of Tobago, cannot be too much noticed, or too warmly spoken of. Upon the surrender of the island, the Marquis de Bouillé did not seize upon the private property of the inhabitants, nor cause it to be disposed of at public auction, pocketing the produce for his own emolument; but conducted himself towards the inhabitants as a Commander who, though flushed with victory, never once forgot that humanity was due to the conquered.

"Major Stanhope, who commanded the regulars at Tobago, at the time it was captured by the French, and agreed with the enemy on the articles of capitulation that took place, without the concurrence or consent of the Governor, is to have his conduct investigated into by a court-martial, which is shortly to sit, to enquire into his conduct on the above occasion.

"However the above officer may be blameable for having capitulated with the enemy, without the approbation of the Governor, military men pronounce the conditions obtained to be both mild and honourable.

"As many persons may have occasion to write to Tobago, it may not be amiss to inform them, that their letters should be directed there by the way of Barbadoes, as a flag of truce is continually passing between the two islands.

"It is said, that the convoy intended for the outward-bound East-India fleet, will be the strongest and most formidable ever appointed to that service.

"Rear Admiral Sir Samuel Hood remains with the command of the Leeward Island squadron; and, it is supposed, will not be superseded in that important trust, although he is nearly one of the youngest flag officers in the fleet. Sir Samuel is a very active and experienced officer, two qualities rarely met with in either our naval or military commanders-in-chief.

"This morning Admiral Sir George Rodney waited on the Lords of the Admiralty for the first time since his return from the West-Indies; and afterwards went to Lord George Germain's, where he staid with his Lordship for a considerable time.

"This day, the Right Honourable the Earl of Dunmore had a long conference with Lord George Germain, at his house in Pall Mall, and this day, with the rest of the general officers, is to take leave of the King, on their going to embark for America."

The following ADDRESS was presented to Lieutenant Governor FERGUSON, by a respectable body of the inhabitants of TOBAGO, upon his leaving the Island, on the 10th of June 1781.

To the Honorable GEORGE FERGUSON, Esq; late Governor of the Island of Tobago.

"WE, the inhabitants of this Island, beg leave to offer you our warmest acknowledgments for the zeal and impartiality of your conduct as Governor of this Island; and for the bravery with which you defended it nine days against a powerful army, to which you were at last induced to surrender by the treachery of us the inhabitants, to save our properties from the destruction with which they were threatened. And we flatter ourselves, that the gallantry of your conduct, on this occasion, will recommend you to the approbation and favour of your sovereign."

"Tobago, June 6. 1781."

We are happy to inform the Public, that some of the Leeward Island fleet, belonging to Glasgow, are safe arrived in Clyde. We have not been able to learn whether the whole trade belonging to that place have got in, but presume they have, as it is not to be supposed they would separate. The wind having proved favourable, since the fleet was ordered to steer north about, after they were seen off Cape Clear, we may reasonably expect to see them in Leigh Roads in a day or two.

This day, the Hirondelle privateer of Dunkirk, prize to his Majesty's ship Prophete, was sold by public roup at Lawson's coffee-house, for 301. 1s. Sterling. The purchase was made by Captain Mitchell, commander of the Lively privateer.

*Foxter, Sept. 27. 1781.*

Yesterday, came on here the election of Magistrates for this burgh, when

GEORGE DEMPSTER, Esq; was elected Provost.

Mess. John Webster, } Baillies.

James Dickson, }

John Cuthbert, Treasurer.

*Extract of a letter from a passenger on board the Cornwallis, dated Sept. 24.*

"We sailed from the Fairley on Thursday the 6th of September, at one A. M. and, on Sunday the 9th, was captured in the chaps of the North Channel, within ten leagues of Tory, at noon, by the Eagle privateer of St Malo, of 44 guns, to wit, 28 twenty-four pounders on one deck, and 16 twelve and eighteen on her quarters, and 250 men, among whom were a number of Irishmen, commanded by Capt. Dabrain. Our Captain and all his crew were taken on board the frigate, except Mr Taylor chief mate, myself, and my boy, who lived on board as usual, under French government, for ten days, steering for France; but, luckily for us, on Tuesday last, the 18th inst. we fell in with his Majesty's frigate the Monsieur of 44 guns and 250 men, commanded by the Hon. Charles Phipps, Esq; who recaptured us off Cape Clear, took the French prize-master and 9 men, who had the charge of us, on board his own frigate, and sent a petty officer and 7 men on board of us, with orders to make Portsmouth, or the next English port that the wind permitted."

*Extract of a letter from Dublin, Sept. 25.*

"Advice was received last night by express from Limerick, that on the 23d instant the Enterprise privateer of London, commanded by Captain Eden, had arrived in the river Shannon, and brought in with her two prizes, viz. the brig Thomas of Boston, from Boston to Cadiz, and the brig Betley of Boston, from Port au Prince to Bilbao, the one of 12 guns, the other of six, both laden with tobacco, cocoa, &c. computed to be worth £5,000 l.

"The following notice was yesterday filed in the Royal Exchange:

"My LORD, Dublin Castle, Sept. 24. 1781.

"I have his Excellency's commands to inform you, that by a letter received early this morning, by express from the Commander in Chief, I have had the pleasure to hear that the Leeward Islands fleet, consisting of 170 sail, had arrived on the 22d off Kinsale; and, when Sir John Irwin's dispatch left Cork, was said to be then standing for the harbour of Cork. I request your Lordship will communicate this pleasing event to the city of Dublin. I have the honour to be, &c.

W. EDEN.

Right Hon. the Lord Mayor.

"In consequence of the above, Mr Kelly, one of the messengers, was despatched with an express from his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant for London.

"We hear, the whole of the Leeward Island fleet arrived at Cork, are ordered to fall down the Channel and proceed round Scotland. A most convincing proof that Government do not seem to be quite sure that the combined fleets are gone into port.

"Such a daring outrage against the laws of any civilized country, never was offered, as that now carrying on by Fitzgerald, at Rockfield, in the County of Mayo; no less than absolutely levying war against the state. To such a pitch of audacity has he carried his insolence, that he lately obliged the Sheriff, assisted with two troops of cavalry, to make hasty retreat from before his lines. We are informed, that a regular fortification, with fosses, bastions, &c. have been formed at that place, upon which a number of ship guns, procured from Newport Pratt, are mounted with complete carriages; and that they are amply supplied with ammunition and stores, to enable them to make a vigorous defence, as he has declared to his associates, that he is resolved, rather than surrender, to be buried under the ruins. An armed banditti of upwards of 100 mountaineers, armed, clothed, and well appointed, compose the garrison. No less a force than 150 foot, three troops of horse, and a Captain's command of artillery, with two twelve pounders, two howitzers, and several covered waggons, marched from this city upon Sunday morning last, at six o'clock, to invest this fort, and reduce the Governor to an obedience to the laws of the realm.

"It is asserted, that if a single life upon either side falls, in consequence of the summons, that the Governor will be hanged upon the walls of his own citadel.

The following letter was received on Saturday evening, from Chester, by a commercial house in Dublin:

"DEAR SIR, Parkgate, Sept. 17. 1781.

"Pursuant to orders, I this day waited upon Captain Ellis, and find his situation to be such as gives me little hopes of his protection. He proposed to their Lordships, by letter of the 12th instant, to take some vessels from Chester to Liverpool, bound to Dublin, under his care, and then to proceed to Plymouth with his prize, as she is ordered there; but he yesterday received positive orders to go to sea immediately and cruise off Cape Clear, to gain intelligence of the combined fleets, which orders he must have immediately put in execution had he been ready; but he says it will take him three days to get ready. Now, as they had not received his letters when these orders were sent, he says he does not know what to say, whether they, on receipt of his letter, will not lend him orders to follow his own plan of conveying the trade, or whether he must proceed in search of the fleets, which he must do as soon as he is ready, without further orders arrive. I was this day on board a vessel (who arrived in Liverpool yesterday) that was taken last Wednesday, coming across Cardigan bay, by a lugger of 14 guns, commanded by Pat. Dowling; her name the William, William Hussey master, from Bristol to Liverpool; he ran over for 900 l. so that I fear our Channel is full infested. The people on board say, there was only one Frenchman on board the privateer. You'll please to inform Mess. Griffith, Jeff. Edwards, &c. of my proceedings; and I remain, waiting further orders, your's affectionately,

THO. SIMMONS.  
Mr W. M. Geoghegan, merchant, Cheltenham.

*Extract of a letter from Cork, Sept. 20.*

"By a gentleman landed from on board the Hero, we hear, that excessive heats prevailed at Charlestown for some time; the thermometer was up at 110 degrees, the like never known there before. Very little news of importance, except that our ships there had re-landed what rice they had taken in there, owing to the apprehensions entertained of a scarcity of provisions prevailing. The Hero sailed from Charlestown the 5th of August, and Lord Rawdon was to come home in the next packer, which was expected to fail in a few days after."

*Extract of a letter from Cork, Sept. 17.*

"So great is the strength of the forts in our harbour, that it is now thought impossible for the enemy to enter it. The time a vessel takes to pass Carlisle, Dog's Nose, and Spike island, forts, is fifteen minutes, on an average, during which time 80 twenty-four pounders can be firing at her; allowing each of these to be discharged six times in two minutes and an half, they will fire 2880 shots before a vessel can clear the forts; and supposing one fourth not to take effect, 2160 shot must take place.

"Station of the King's troops in this county, 2d horse at Mallow, 5th foot at Youghal, 8th dragoons at Cloyne, 14th ditto at Bandon, 68th and 52d foot, besides the Independent Companies at Kinsale, 81st foot, Cloyne and fort Carlisle, 13th and 18th light dragoons, 66th, 67th, and 77th foot in Cork, Cove, and Crosshaven, with a very large train of artillery in Cork and its vicinity."

*Extract of a letter from Cork, Sept. 17.*

"The different movements and arrivals of the army are so numerous, that to describe them would require much care and time; suffice it to say, that hitherto we are quiet and easy as to French or Spanish invasion; and from the precautions taken by Government, this city and adjacent country being now a perfect military park, we bid defiance to our enemies at large.

"In the midst of all the confusion and bustle so disagreeably attended on those alarming occasions, such as distrust, and public credit at a stand, the resources of our custom-house very low, and no money there to pay the troops, of course his Majesty's service was in danger of suffering—when lo! a tender was made to Sir John Irwin, the Commander in Chief, by Mr George Gold, informing him, that he and the other Roman Catholic gentlemen of Cork were ready and willing to supply him with money for support of his Majesty's service, and that they would share what they possessed to the last guinea; and, in consequence thereof, Sir John Irwin has, with the most agreeable politeness, accepted the offer. This is a most pleasing proof of virtue and loyalty, and must be highly pleasing to his Majesty, especially at a time when it may be supposed most people, of all denominations, would plead their not having any call at command, or, perhaps, be hiding in holes what they had in their possession."

The following exhortation was read yesterday at all the Roman Catholic chapels in this city:

"The Roman Catholics of this city are earnestly exhorted to maintain at all times, but particularly now when we are threatened by foreign enemies, a peaceable behaviour, and to shew their zeal and loyalty to his present Majesty and government. They are to consider the military that have been sent here for our defence as their best friends and protectors, and so far from quarrelling with them, we strenuously exhort you to cherish and use them with every civility in your power, that by this and every other demonstration, all our enemies may see that one only interest unites us all, and that we are ready to sacrifice our lives and fortunes in support of the common cause."

"The city is in high spirits upon having discovered, as they imagine, a mode of totally blowing up all the works at the new Customhouse, and preventing the least possibility of their being ever reinstated.—The committee for setting leases, after rummaging all the old city parchments they could find in the town-clerk's office, cannot find the least trace of any grant whatever being made of the ground which was lately taken by the Commissioners, for their present seige.—They farther allege, that the person who let the ground upon the north wall could convey no right, which rests absolutely with the city, and for which reason they have given orders to the Recorder, to file a bill as soon as possible, to restore that part of their estate, and to give every obstruction to the works.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, 1st October 1781.  
**MR TYTLER** Advocate, Professor of Civil History, and Greek and Roman Antiquities, intends to begin, on the 22d of November next, a Course of Lectures on **UNIVERSAL HISTORY, ANCIENT AND MODERN.**

**PRINTERS.**

WANTED, some JOURNEYMAN COMPOSITORS and PRESS-MEN—Apply at the APOLLO PRESS, Edinburgh, 1st October 1781.

**TO BE SOLD.**

THE Farms of HILLSOP, CALFHILL, and ALLANSHAWS, jointly or separately, lying in Roxburghshire. These Lands contain about 1800 Scots acres. The Farm of Calfhill is wholly arable, and, by stipulations in the leases, the tenants have been restrained from labouring these eighty years past; and from this circumstance, and the situation of the ground, there being abundance of fine stores for inclosing, the subject is capable of much improvement.—On Hillsop and Calfhill there are already four inclosures by stone dykes, containing forty acres; and there is a march-dyke along the whole west side of these lands lately built.—Allanshaw is valued in the rate-books of the county at 400 l. Scots; the Lands of Hillsop and Calfhill at 368 l. and duly rated at a Forty-shilling Land of old extent. All of these lands hold of the Crown, and the proprietor has an heritable right to the tennants. A purchaser may enter to the natural possession at Whit-sunday next.

**A L S O.**

The Farms of LADYSIDE and GARVALD, in the parish of Heriot, and shire of Edinburgh. These Lands are of great extent, hold of the Crown, and were, prior to the year 1680, separately retoured Forty-shilling Lands of old extent.

**A L S O.**

AN INCLOSURE, of eight acres, adjoining the town of Dalkeith, rented at 34 l. And several Houses, and Areas for building on in the middle of the town.

A commodious DWELLING-HOUSE, Garden, and Offices, situated in the west end of Laurieston street, Edinburgh.

For further particulars, apply to Mr Borthwick of Crooksburn, the proprietor, or William Riddell writer to the signet.

N. B. This advertisement not to be repeated.

**TO BE SOLD.**

THE Lands and Estate of WESTFIELD, lying within the parish of Spynie and Birsay, in the County of Orkney. This estate is of excellent soil, remarkably well accommodated, and of great extent for the size. It is situated in the best cultivated and most pleasant part of Morayshire. The manor-house is within two miles of the sea, and a like distance from the town of Egin. Those who incline to purchase may apply to John Jones, writer to the signet, or Mr William Roberton merchant, Egin.

To the Printer of the Caledonian Mercury.

SIR,  
IT is universally acknowledged to be a very difficult matter to prevent any thing, however agreeable at first, from palling either upon the appetite or the senses. The best seasoned dish, if often offered up, never fails to produce that effect upon the one; the most entertaining amusement, constantly repeated, has a similar influence upon the other.

I was led into these reflections, Mr Printer, from a pretty close attendance upon Mr Breslaw since his arrival in this city, at whose exhibitions, it is generally imagined, there can be but little entertainment, after the first night. The case, however, is widely different. That some of his most capital deceptions may be seen every time he performs, I will readily admit; but, then, they are so variously exhibited as to increase the astonishment of the beholder. The number of tricks, too, of which he is in possession, and the neatness and dexterity with which he represents them, gives him an evident advantage over any performer that ever appeared in his line. The first puts it in his power to give continual variety, while the other never fails to please his audience. Nothing but the truth of these observations, can account for the numerous and brilliant companies which have hitherto attended him in Mary's Chapel, and from whence, I will venture to say, they never go away without highly admiring his very extraordinary abilities. But, Mr Printer, these are not confined to his public exhibitions. He shines, if possible, with redoubled lustre in select private parties, to many of which, of the most respectable rank, he has been invited since his arrival here. There he cannot be said to have any assistance, which some people may suspect he receives when performing in public; and yet, strange to relate, the deceptions with which he entertains his friends in private, are still more amazing than those which he either does or can exhibit in Public.

I cannot conclude this letter, without saying a few words, with regard to the young Lady who accompanies Mr Breslaw. Considering her youth, she may well be looked upon as a prodigy. That a child of about ten years of age should be capable of executing, with the greatest propriety, so long and so variable a performance as the celebrated George Alexander Stevens Lecture on Heads, will scarce be credited by those who have not been witnesses to her delivery of them. The bursts of applause, however, with which she is always received, can leave no room to doubt her abilities; nor can a stronger proof be adduced of her merits, both as an orator and a singer, than the approbation she has always been thought entitled to by people of the first taste in the kingdom.

Your giving a place to the above in your useful and entertaining paper, will oblige,

Sir, your very humble servant,

A. B.

To the Publisher of the Caledonian Mercury.

SIR,  
Cork, Sept. 15. 1781.

Such tricks bath strong imagination. SHAKESPEARE.

THE truth of Shakespeare's observation was never more strongly verified than in what I am now going to relate, which will shew the amazing power the imagination has on our perceptions. We have been, for some time past, greatly alarmed with numberless reports of the combined squadrons cruising off our island, and that they fully intended to make a serious landing, thinking, no doubt, that a step of this nature would embarrass the Ministry more than the intercepting the Jamaica and West India fleets, upon which, also, they might have their eye. Early last Thursday morning we were roused from our beds with reports of the enemy's squadron being descried steering in for our harbour, with an easy sail. We were thrown into the greatest confusion; but our VOLUNTEERS, fully convinced they meant only to parade a little, were in a great bustle, and looked very big. In a little time, our bay, and every eminence, was crowded with spectators, all eager to see this hostile fleet, which seemed fairly to be standing in for the land. Some affirmed that they could count above 50 large ships of war; others, who pretended to have better eyes than their neighbours, affirmed they saw ten or twelve three-deckers, above forty two-deckers, besides several large frigates; while others, more modestly, said, that the whole was at too great a distance, and too confused, for them to conjecture how many the fleet consisted of. At last they seemed to us to bring to, as if they intended to man their boats, and attempt a descent: Our VOLUNTEERS looked a little crest-fallen. We were kept for more than an hour in a state of the greatest anxiety, every minute expecting to see their boats putting in for the shore, when, to our inexpressible joy and surprise, the sails of this mighty squadron vanished from our sight in a twinkling; the masts followed next; and, in a few seconds, after the sun had broke through the clouds, there were neither two-decker nor three-decker to be seen. We were all exceedingly happy that our foes had moved off so quietly; but our VOLUNTEERS seemed to be greatly disappointed, that a descent had not really taken place.

The appearance which had so long and so completely deceived and terrified us, was no other than one of those astonishing fog-banks, which appear so often in the southern ocean, and which impose even on the most celebrated navigators. Had this phenomenon happened in the evening, how many swift-sailing cutters would have been disengaged with the tidings to England! Darby and the grand fleet, who are always drinking water at Torbay, would have been put in a great bustle. We returned home in the highest spirits, and fully convinced that all the Lisbon Captains and others, who so confidently affirmed that they had sailed through the combined fleets, must have been deceived by such fog-banks, and that they never were within some hundred miles of an island.

W. A.

TO BE LET.  
THE MANSION-HOUSE of AUCHINDINNY, with the Garden, and Offices, and about one hundred acres of LAND surrounding the house.

The premises are pleasantly situated six miles south from Edinburgh, and within a mile of Roslin. The house will accommodate a large family.

For further particulars, apply to John Moir writer to the signet.

EDINBURGH: Printed for and by JOHN and THOMAS ROBERTSON, and sold at their Printing-house in the PARLIAMENT-CLOSE, where ADVERTISEMENTS and SUBSCRIPTIONS are taken in. This Paper is regularly published every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.—The price as follows: viz. 46 s. 6 d. per annum, when sent by post; 40 s. 6 d. when sent to any house in this city or suburbs; 37 s. 6 d. when called for at the Printing-house; and a single paper 3 d.

To the Printer of the Caledonian Mercury.

SIR,  
I am one of your constant readers, I beg leave, through the channel of your useful paper, to ask a few Queries, as I am told liberty and liberality of sentiment are as familiar to your climate as despotism is in northern latitudes.

Quere, Has a British Parliament made any law to oblige the inhabitants of this country to lodge, under the name of two soldiers, a man and his wife; or, in case he cannot lodge them, to pay them 10 d. a-week?

Quere, Has the Magistrates of a burgh a right to make such a law; or can a billet-maister do it without any law?

Quere, Is it a general practice to lodge an equal number of men on every person who, by his trade, is rated local quarters, suppose one trades to the extent of 50 l. and another to 1500 l. a-year?

Quere, What trades are denominated local quarters?

Perhaps some of your numerous correspondents will be so good as give an answer to the above, which would oblige

A Lover of Constitutional Liberty.

Aberdeen, Sept. 25.

SCURVY, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, NERVOUS COMPLAINTS, &c.

CHARLES ELLIOT Bookseller, Edinburgh, from the fullest evidence of the superior efficacy of Mr SPILSBURY'S DROPS over others now vendred, conceives there is not a necessity of re-publishing the extraordinary cures performed by this medicine, when he has it in his power to oblige the public gratis with a testimonial much more interesting and satisfactory to the patient, which is a perusal of a celebrated work lately published, entitled, Free Observations on the Scurvy, Gout, Diet, and Renedy, price 2 s. 6 d. Octavo, wherein may be seen not only the author's mode of treating those complaints, but a selection of 70 remarkable successful cases, many of which comes within our knowledge.—On returning the books within a fortnight, the money deposited is repaid at my shop, Parliament close.

N. B. Other vendors in the country for Mr Spilsbury's Drops, (Price 4 s. small and 7 s. large bottles) are the following Booksellers, viz.

Mr Alex. Thompson, Aberdeen, Mr E. Wilson, Dumfries, W. Sharp, Inverness, G. Elliot, Kelso, J. Gillies, Perth, James Duncan, Glasgow.

ELGIN, 28th September 1781.

By Order of the SHERIFF-DEPUTY of ELGIN.

WHEREAS Seven CATTLE strayed some time ago into the parks of Brodie, whereof three have been claimed, and the other four remaining, viz. A black Quey, four years old, a black Cow, five years old, a black Cow with crum horns, five years old, and a black Stot, two years old, have been duly proclaimed at this market-cross, and at the kirk of Dyke. Intimation is hereby made to all concerned, to claim and prove their property herein, and pay the expence of maintenance and others, against Friday the 12th of October next; with certification that they will be sold by roup at Elgin on that day, for the above effect, and the balance of the price consigned as the law directs. The marks of each are to be seen in the Sheriff-clerk's office.

THO. GILZEAN, Sh. Clk. Sub. N. B. Four small Cattle, part of these formerly advertised, were sold by roup this day, at 3 l. 1 s. sterl. If any person has an interest in the price, let him apply to the Sheriff therewith.

Not to be repeated.

I O be SOLD by public voluntary roup, within John's Coffeehouse, Edinburgh, upon Wednesday the 7th day of November next, between the hours of five and six afternoon.

That TENEMENT of HOUSES, lying at the foot of Leith Walk, and fronting the coach-road to Edinburgh by the Canongate.

The subjects consist of a high fore house of two rooms fronting the road, and a kitchen, with a garden of considerable extent behind the house, lately possessed by Charles Gordon vintner; with two laigh houses, consisting of two rooms and a kitchen each, presently possessed by Alexander Neilson clubmaker, and George Stiel wright; and large garret common to the whole.

The progress of writs and articles of roup to be seen in the hands of William Wilson junior, writer to the signet, to whom any person desirous of concluding a private bargain may apply.

If the subjects are not sold, the house lately possessed by Charles Gordon will be SET.

INTIMATION

To the CREDITORS of JOHN PRINGLE of Crichton, and ROBERT RUTHERFORD of Fairnalee.

THE Creditors are desired, without delay, to lodge in the hands of Alexander Farquharson accountant in Edinburgh, or Hugh Bremer his clerk, their grounds of debt, with oaths on the verity, specifying the particular sums relating to them, the annual rents due, and the payments (if any) made, that the Trustee may be enabled to draw up a correct slate of the debts, a scheme of division of the prices of the lands now sold, and of the other funds collected for their payment.

As this division will be final, the creditors must blame themselves, if they neglect to produce, and so are omitted.

NOTICE

To the CREDITORS of JAMES DUNLOP late Merchant in Glasgow.

THE Trustees for the Creditors of Mr Dunlop have resolved, with the approbation of the Commissioners, to divide among the said creditors, at Whitsunday next, the whole funds recovered since making the first dividend in November 1772: And they intimate to those who have not received the first dividend, if there are any, that if they do not prove their debts, and lodge their claims in the hands of Claud Marshall writer in Glasgow, agent for the Trustees, between and Candlemas next, they will be excluded from both dividends, as the Trustees will make a final division of the whole funds remaining in their hands.

Alexander Spears.

Andrew Blackburn.

Andrew Sym.

SEAMEN WANTED.

THE LIVELY PRIVATEER, WILLIS MACHELL Commander, mounting 18 carriage guns, having returned to Leith with great success,—a few able and ordinary SEAMEN are wanted for the remainder of the cruise, which expires in December first.

The best encouragement will be met with, by applying to the Captain on board, or to Messrs Ramay, Williamson, and Co.

A MASTER, well acquainted with the

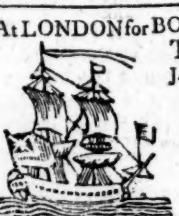
North Sea, is also wanted for the Lively.

At LONDON for BORROWSTOUNNESS and ALLOA, THE FAIR ELLIOT, JAMES MACKIE for JAMES DRUMMOND Master,

Now lying at Hawley's Wharf, taking in goods, and will sail with the first convoy.

Has excellent accommodation for passengers.

Letters addressed to the Master, at the Edinburgh Coffeehouse, No. 1. Swithing's Alley, will be attended to.



HOUSE IN ARGYLE-SQUARE.

TO be SOLD, the DWELLING-HOUSE in Argyle-Square, belonging to DAVID ERSKINE Clerk to the Signet, consisting of twelve rooms, several light closets, kitchen, garrets, and four cellars, with a back area, water-pipe, and many other conveniences. One of the rooms is 30 feet by 18, and of a proper height. The situation of the house is pleasant and central.—It will be shown on Monday, Thursday, and Friday, between one and three afternoon.

A purchaser may have access at Martinmas next.

A Bleaching Field and Printing Ground, with Utensils at Ormiston, in East Lothian,

TO BE LET—BY ANDREW WIGHT.

THE Whitening of Linen, and Calico Printing, was carried on by his Son, with success, for several years, till his death; and the premises are now to be LEASED, for such a number of years as parties can agree upon. The conveniences for both branches of business are many and commodious; the prints and utensils for printing, and machinery for washing and cleaning the cloth, are numerous and in good order; twenty books of patterns in good taste, and many new of the present fashion, lately cut. The business, already established, might be carried on to great extent by one or more persons, if fully instructed in all the branches of the whitening and printing business.

A NEAT HOUSE, for a small family, Offices, and Garden, will be LET also, with or without the bleaching ground and utensils; to which 20 or 30 acres of Ground, inclosed, may be added, if required.

Enquire of the said Andrew Wight.

By the Trustees for the Creditors of M'Call and Smellie, Merchants in Glasgow.

TO be SOLD by public roup, within the house of Mrs Sheid, near the Cross, in Glasgow, upon Wednesday the third day of October 1781, at one o'clock afternoon.

THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS,

Disposed by the said Debtors to the said Trustees, viz.

I. All and whole the thirty-seven thirling and six penny Land of old extent in Easter Dalbeth, called EASTER HILL, with the pertinents, and the Park contiguous thereto called BRAIDFAULD; with the share of Clydesmill, and Salmon Fishing in the river Clyde, belonging to the said lands; all lying within the Barony parish of Glasgow, in the shire of Lanark. As also, the going COAL-WORKS, Engine, and other Machinery for working coal, erected on the said grounds.—The lands, consisting of 72 acres or thereby, lie, pleasantly situated, upon the north bank of the river Clyde, about three miles from Glasgow. There is a neat convenient mansion-house and offices on them, besides farm houses, with a garden well stocked with fruit-trees.—There are several deep seams of coal in the lands, which, from their good quality and vicinity to Glasgow, have a ready market; and, by proper attention, they may be wrought to great extent and advantage.—The above lands will be set up in whole or in lots, if bidders incline.

John Horn at Easter Hill will show the lands.

II. A HOUSE in Queen's Street of Glasgow, lately built by George M'Call; and the back Court and Garden behind, to the south of a line along the north gable of the said house.

III. That LOT OF GROUND for building, lying in Queen's Street, with some offices thereon, contiguous to and on the north of the lot last mentioned, and on the south of and contiguous to Mr Cunningham's house and grounds.

IV. The HOUSE, being the second storey of a fore Tenement in Glasgow, on the east side of the street leading from the Cross to the College; together with the Cellars and pertinents; all as possessed by Archibald Smellie merchant in Glasgow.

All who are indebted to Archibald Smellie and Son for coals, are desired to pay what they owe to John Ronald merchant in Glasgow, who alone has power to receive and discharge the same, and will be found at the shop of William and Alexander Cooper, merchants in Glasgow.

The articles of roup, and progress of writs of the said lands, and a plan of the country lands, are to be seen in the hands of Thos. Grahame writer in Glasgow; and a copy of the articles of roup, and inventory of the progress of writs, are lodged with Robert Trotter writer to the signet.

TO be SOLD by public roup, by authority of the Lords of Council and Session, within the Parliament or New Session House of Edinburgh, upon the 18th day of December next.

The LANDS and Estates of ABBOTSHAUGH and MUNGAL, GARDOCH, and FULLERSHAUGH, upon the river Carron, adjoining the Carron Works, all lying within the parishes of Falkirk and Bothkennar, and shire of Stirling.

The free rent of the stock of the lands of Abbotshaugh and Mungal, including Mr Cowan's feu duty of 8 l. 9 s. 3 d. sterl., after all deductions, is 29 l. 16 s. 10 d. 12ths sterl.; which, valued at 22 years purchase, amounts to L. 6595 13 6 4-12ths

Free teind is 68 l. 8 s. 4 d. 4-12ths sterl.; which, valued at five years purchase, amounts to 342 1 9 8-12ths

Total upset value of Abbotshaugh and Mungal, is 6937 15 4

The free rent of the lands of Gardoch, and teinds thereof, to which the common debtors have right, after deductions, is 29 l. 14 s. 2 d. 1-12th sterl.; and being valued at 22 years purchase, the upset price is

The free rent of the lands of Fullers-haugh, and teinds thereof, to which the common debtors have right, including Carron House, Gardens, and Offices, Warehouse, Cran Wharf, and Shore Dues, &c. &c. is 176 l. 10 s. 11 d. 2-12ths sterl., and being valued at different rates, the upset value is 2528 8 5 8-12ths

Total upset value, L. 10119 15 7 6-12ths

The situation of these lands in the Carse of Falkirk, to bear the works of Carron, and the apparent advantages from it, need not to be stated.

The articles of sale may be seen in the Office of Alexander Ross, depute clerk of Session; and copies and every information may be had of Thomas Cockburn writer to the signet.

SALE OF LANDS IN GALLOWAY.

TO be SOLD, by public voluntary roup, within the Blair's Arms Inn, at Kirkcudbright, on Friday the 2d of November next, betwixt the hours of twelve and one afternoon.

ALL and WHOLE the LANDS of OVER, MIDDLE, and NETHER AIRDS; comprehending the BENNANHILL, the Ferry-boat of the Roan and Brocklock Meadow as pertinents of the said lands; and the Fishings of Salmon in cruives and draughts on the waters of Dee and Kenn, lying within the parish of Kells and stewartry of Kirkcudbright: ALSO, All and Whole the Two and a half Merk Land of ARIE, of old extent, with the pertinents thereof, lying within the parish of Balmaghie, and stewartry forefaid.

The present free rent of the Lands and Boat is 134 l. 2 d. 1-3d; of which the Over and Middle Airds pay 55 l. 11 s. 1 d. 1-3d, on a tack which is current for eight years after Whitsunday next; but, on the expiring of that tack, these lands will give a very considerable addition of rent.

The Lands